

# SS John & Monica Catholic Primary School

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17.07.20

Dear Parents/Carers,

This update will be the last of what has been an unprecedented and challenging year for us all. The last few months have, at times, seemed rather strange and surreal. Although school has been open throughout, it has not felt like normal and we have genuinely missed all our children, who make our school complete. SS John and Monica's staff and I are all very much looking forward to seeing our whole school community and being together again in September.

## Term Dates 2020-21

Term	Start	Half Term	Reopens	Term Ends
Autumn 2020	Tues 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept - Training Day Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept School Open for Pupils	Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec
Spring 2021	Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan - Training Day Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan School Open for Pupils	Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> Apr
Summer 2021	Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> Apr - Training Day Tues 20 <sup>th</sup> Apr School Open for Pupils	Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> May to Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> July

## Training Days

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2020
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2020
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Final Date TBC

## Return to School - September 2020

Please make sure that you have read the protocols for September return which were sent out last week and return Home/School Covid-19 agreements. Thank you.

**Important – Please do not congregate outside the school gate, in order to ensure adequate accessibility to the school. Thank you.**

## Covid-19 Government Guidelines to Schools

### Prevention:

- 1) Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school
- 2) Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual
- 3) Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- 4) Introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach
- 5) Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible
- 6) Where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)

Numbers 1 to 4 must be in place in all schools, all the time. Number 5 must be properly considered and schools must put in place measures that suit their particular circumstances. Number 6 applies in specific circumstances.

### **Response to any infection:**

- 7) Engage with the NHS Test and Trace process
- 8) Manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community
- 9) Contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice

Numbers 7 to 9 must be followed in every case where they are relevant.

### **Secondary School Admissions**

If your child is currently in Year 5 and due to transfer from primary to secondary school in September 2021 you will need to apply online for your child's secondary school place. If you live in Birmingham you should apply for your child's secondary school place online at <https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions> between 1 September and 31 October 2020. It is important that you submit your application by 31 October 2020. Applications received after the national closing date of 31 October 2020 will be treated as late applications, late applicants are less likely to be offered a place at one of their preferred schools and these applications will be processed after 1 March 2021 in accordance to Birmingham's coordinated admissions scheme.

### **Return to School Travel Advice**

We appreciate that the return to school in September will be under very different circumstances. Advice from the government remains that public transport should only be used if essential and other modes are not available. With greater numbers of pupils returning to schools, available space needs to be used effectively to ensure everyone can get around safely. **Walking and cycling** will play a vital role in ensuring that pupils are able to attend classes safely, helping to make space for those who have no alternative but to use public transport. Transport for West Midlands have created a video about how to use the public transport network safely:

- Travelling Safely on bus  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AwaOX4iCDTg>

### **Reading Together Challenge**

- The summer Reading Challenge is back with the Silly Squad! [Silysquad.org.uk](https://www.silysquad.org.uk). Register at <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> to go on adventures and get stuck into different kinds of books. The Silly Squad team are using a new online platform where you can keep track of books reviews and rewards.
- Birmingham Library members can still borrow eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines, eNewspapers and eComics through the library service at [https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/50163/library\\_services/1541/using\\_the\\_library\\_catalogues](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/50163/library_services/1541/using_the_library_catalogues)

- Additionally, there is availability of a free selection of eBooks to support your reading challenge at <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/> and <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

### **Design the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games mascot**

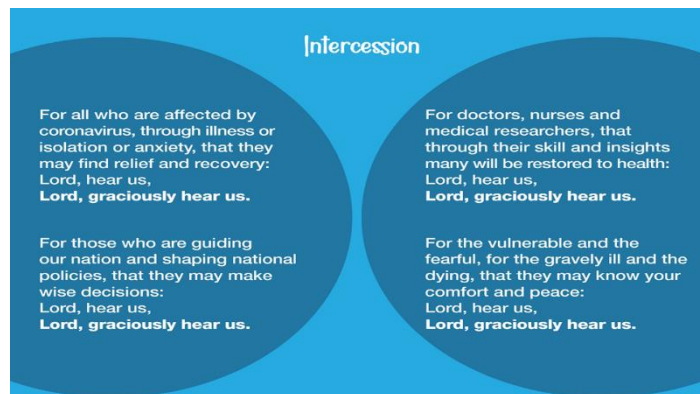
The Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games has developed some exciting new learning resources to inspire school children in key stages 1 and 2 to design their own mascot, which could go on to become the official icon of the games. The resources encourage children to get creative and become mascot makers by designing a mascot for the games that is youthful, diverse, dynamic and creative: everything that the region stands for. Designs can then be entered into a national competition to win amazing prizes including tickets to the Birmingham 2022 opening ceremony. The best entries will inspire the games' official mascot. The resources are available now. To download them and to find out how to enter the competition, please go to <https://www.birmingham2022.com/mascot> .The competition closes on 5 August 2020.

### **Hall Green Families Summer Newsletter and Activities**

Please see **attached summer information in the locality**. For weekly updates, timetables, top tips, recipe ideas and local activities go to [www.hallgreencommunities.org.uk](http://www.hallgreencommunities.org.uk).

There will be a staff training day on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September. **School will re-open to pupils on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.**

The staff, governors and I would like to thank you for your continued support to our school over the last few difficult months. We pray that our whole school community stays safe and keeps well until September, when we will be together again, as our SS John and Monica family.



God Bless,

Mrs. M. Elliott  
Head Teacher

If a child is in immediate danger of significant harm a call should be made to CASS on 0121 303 1888. If you encounter a dangerous or unsafe situation, please contact the police on 999.

*'At SS John and Monica's, we learn through the example of Jesus to love, respect, understand and value each other'*